

1. (currently amended) A browsing method encoded on a computer-readable medium, for managing Internet research in a research session, wherein the method includes the steps of selecting a pre-defined project name of a current project to which Internet navigation is to be associated, accessing URLs on the Internet for navigation thereon ~~navigation on the Internet~~ by a user or users, and is automatically associating each URL accessed ~~associated with the a pre-defined project name so as to create, thus creating~~ an associated research summary of URLs visited.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further includes the step of attributing incidences of on-line activity ~~are attributed~~ to the project name in the associated research summary.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the method cooperates with an updating method resident on a server such that the server-resident updating method scans and updates bookmarks stored in a database when the server is accessed.

4. (cancelled).

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein further, the URLs associated with the research summary are saved in a global, project- or theme-based navigational history accessible to other users through an intranet.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein, in addition to the project name, an individual user name is associated with the research summary.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the method further includes the step of analyzing a performance measure means is provided which analyses ~~user statistics in a manner which measures the tendency of a user to remain focused on one project at a time, taking into~~

account certain research session statistics including at least online time, a total number of project names researched online and time spent on the user's personal project name.

8. (previously presented) The browsing method of claim 1 wherein the research summary is a record of the activity attributed to the user name and project name or names which is stored in a format which may be printed or electronically filed, for later access.

9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein, after the user accesses a web page, a URL associated with the web page is automatically and at least semi-permanently associated with the user on a global navigation history which is accessible by other users, and whereas, if the user merely activates the URL of the web page, the user may store the URL in an at least semi-private format for later access, thereby providing the user with an incentive not to access a page which is of private interest and not relevant to the current project.

10. (previously presented) The client browsing method of claim 1, wherein the project name is automatically extracted and used as the decryption key to decrypt encrypted documents posted on a computer network, prior to the documents display on the user's computer.

11. (previously presented) The client browsing method of claim 9 wherein the research summary is stored in a format which may be printed or electronically filed, for later access.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein, after the user has accessed a current web page, ~~defined as the current~~ page having an associated URL address, upon activation of a link which addresses, via another URL address, another web page and thus, potentially initiating a new research session, the user is queried as to how to attribute the URL addresses, and depending on the results of the query, the another web page is downloaded, or steps terminating the current research project and initiating a search associated with another project name are executed.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the attribution is made with respect to the current page.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the attribution is made with the another yet-to-be-viewed web page.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein, when attributions ~~the results~~ of the query indicate that the download is to be associated with a new project name, the method provides the user with a choice as to whether to postpone initiating a research session by storing the address for use in association with a later project name after termination of the current project, or to terminate the current project and, thereafter, initiate ~~the~~ the new research project in association with a new project name, and depending on the results of the query, an ~~the~~ addressed web page is downloaded and presented to the user or steps initiating a search associated with a new project name are executed.

16. (cancelled).

17. (cancelled).

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein, after the user has accessed a current web page, ~~defined as the current page~~ such page having an associated URL address, including an associated root URL, then upon activation, in an ordinary fashion, of a link addressing, via another URL address including another associated root URL, another web page and thus, potentially initiating a new research session, the user is first queried to determine how to attribute the URLs, and depending on the results of the query, the addressed web page is downloaded and presented to the user or steps initiating a search associated with a new project name are executed.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the attribution is made with respect to a the current page.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the attribution is made with the another yet-to-be-viewed web page.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein, prior to the querying, the root URL associated with of the activated link page is compared to the root URL of the current page, and if the root URLs match, no query is initiated.

22. (cancelled).

23. (withdrawn) A method encoded on a computer-readable medium which permits time-shifting of the downloading of web pages to a client computer, the method comprising the steps of (1) presenting a user with the option of temporarily storing a URL of an activated link in a file in which such URL may be stored and listed in conjunction with other URLs stored in a similar manner, thus creating a URL listing, wherein, when the user indicates a desire to end a current research session, the URL listing is presented to the user for use in launching another research session, at the user's choosing.

24. (cancelled).

25. (cancelled).

26. (withdrawn-original) A browsing method wherein descriptions of web sites saved in association with project names are saved and searchable by keyword, and wherein any matching terms in the descriptions cause URLs for these web sites to be presented in a form which may be selected by a user in order to launch a research session.

27. (withdrawn-original) The browsing method of claim 27 wherein the URLs presented are organized by project name.

28. (currently amended) A system for performing research, the system comprising a computer and storage media encoded with a method which, when researching an internet ~~the Internet~~, and upon the input by a user of a project name, associates contiguous online time with the ~~particular~~ project name, wherein the URLs of web sites which the user downloads for viewing are ~~will be~~ recorded in a record in association with the project name.

29. (currently amended) The system of claim 28, wherein the user is provided with means to temporarily save URLs to sites which are potentially irrelevant to the a-current project name, for access after completion of the current research under the current project name.

30. (currently amended) The system of claim 29, wherein means is provided enabling the user to ~~may~~ save any temporarily saved URLs in association with a special project name such as PERSONAL to which there is limited or no access by others.

31. (currently amended) A browsing method of claim 1, which associates online research to a project name, the method including the further step of presenting input means for inputting comments on URLs visited, any comments entered being stored locally in association with the URL so as to allow the stored information and associated URL to be utilizing a search engine and searchable research summaries including URLs and associated descriptions which are available for key-word searching when the user is not connected to the Internet, the method creating a preliminary listing of URLs which the user may later save in association with the project name.

32. (currently amended) A computer system encoded with a browsing method for managing a research session on an internet ~~Internet~~ in which information is requested from a web ~~downloaded~~ page, called the current downloaded page, by activating and clicking a hypertext link on the web

~~current-downloaded~~ page, wherein, after a user activates the link, input reception means is presented to the user, said means providing for the input of alphanumeric characters identifying a project to which at least a the navigation history of the research session is to be associated, or for confirmation of association with a project identified by alphanumeric characters already input, and when such characters are received or an the association with the already input characters is confirmed, the method downloads the requested information in association with the selected alphanumeric characters.

33. (currently amended) The system of claim 32 wherein, after the alphanumeric characters are received and the research session is commenced, when a link is activated that is associated with a different root URL as compared to the current downloaded page, thus indicating the likelihood of different content, at least one input window is presented to the user which queries the user whether the new to-be-downloaded page will be associated with the ~~current~~ project name currently in use or a new project name or is to be saved as a TBM and the ~~current~~ research continued.

34. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein, to economize display screen space and computer memory, the research summary includes shortcuts to folders of global links common to a particular type of research, thus not requiring duplication of these common links in each project research summary while at the same time yet providing easy access to common links.

35. (original) The method of claim 34, wherein the shortcuts may be dragged and dropped into the URL listing using a project management subroutine controlled by a sub-interface.

36. (cancelled)

37. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the method operates on a computer system generally having a mouse with a right and a left mouse button, and wherein, if a user clicks

once on a hypertext anchor of a web page using the left mouse button or analogous action, the method reminds the user of the project name and solicits the user's confirmation that the download, which the user indicated he wished to initiate by his clicking on the link, is to be associated with the ~~current~~ project name or a new project name.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the method, having downloaded the web page having content into a display window, solicits the user's comments concerning the content of the downloaded page, the solicitation being made via an input field in an input window, these comments being displayed adjacent the display window and made available for key word searching and to indicate to a user the content of the web page.

39. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein a user may review a ~~current~~ web page without being queried to attribute the web page to a project name until the user has finished reviewing the ~~current~~ page, indicated by his having activated an anchor tag or URL pointing the browser to another web page.

40. (original) The method of claim 39, wherein the querying is not made when the pointed-to page is a subdomain of the current page.

41. (original) The method of claim 39, wherein the user is queried as to whether the URL associated with an activated anchor tag should be saved as a Temporary Bookmark, prior to downloading the selected data at the URL.

42. (currently amended) The method of claim 39, wherein, after review of the ~~current~~ page currently in use, the user is queried as to whether the downloaded data is to be associated with the ~~current~~ project name currently in use or another project name.

43. (currently amended) The method of claim 39, wherein, after review of the ~~current~~ page, an input field is presented to the user permitting the user to input keywords and/or comments regarding the ~~current~~ page, thus providing the user an the opportunity to contemporaneously comment on the ~~current~~ page before downloading a the pointed-to page.

44. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the method operates on a computer system generally having a mouse with a right and a left mouse button, and wherein, if a user clicks once on a hypertext anchor of a web page using the left mouse button or analogous action, the method reminds the user of the project name and solicits the user's confirmation that the ~~current~~ downloaded page, which the user had previously initiated, is to be associated with the ~~current~~ project name currently active or a new project name, thus permitting tracking and soliciting, receiving and storing comments, such as key words, metatags, or descriptive terms regarding site content for use in identifying the site.

45. (currently amended) The method of claim 44, wherein the method provides a menu option by which a user can change setting to suppress a the dialog window which otherwise would be presented upon activating a link, and after having been so suppressed, no dialog window is presented upon activating a link, the window only appearing when the user clicks on the right mouse button, the method automatically associating the URL of a downloaded page with the ~~current~~ project name that's currently active.

46. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein URLs that are saved in association with a project name are automatically deleted after a predetermined period of time, given that the following conditions are met: (a) ~~the-to-be-deleted~~ URLs are not pre-packaged URLs, and (b) the user has made no comment or input no keyword regarding the site.

47. (original) The method of claim 46, wherein the following steps are performed:

- a. a URL is saved as part of a data listing including other URLs, together with an associated time tag;
- b. the time tags are scanned in the data listing and all URLs in the listing that are of a predetermined age are marked;
- c. the comment field in the data structure of each marked URL are checked and if the comment field is empty, the marked URL is deleted.

48. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein comments may be saved in association with a document, such as an HTML document, for display to users who download this content.

49. (original) The method of claim 48 wherein navigation icons are provided to enable a user to navigate from one site to another according to an sequence created by a prior user or users.

50. (currently amended) A browsing method of claim 1, wherein the method:

- (a) interacts with a browser operating on a client terminal;
- (b) operates on a server which uploads an interface to the client terminal;
- (c) queries the user for a project name and a user name;
- (d) creates, upon input of the project name and the user name, a folder in association with this project name and tracks online activity in association with the project folder;
- (e) optionally allows the creation of subfolders under a the project name folder, in a tree-like structure; and
- (f) includes means for saving files such as text documents, graphics, and spreadsheet documents under the project name folder or subfolder.

51. (currently amended) The method of claim 50 wherein any the online activity associated with multiple users is merged according to the tree structure wherein folders with matching subproject names are merged.

52. (Cancelled).

53. (Cancelled).

54. (currently amended) A browsing method encoded on a computer-readable medium, for managing Internet research, the method including the steps of accessing URLs on an internet for downloading information therefrom and automatically associating URLs visited with a navigation history, the method further characterized in that an ordinary user is required to input a project name for association with the user's research, and if such research is identified as being of a personal nature, an access control matrix limits access by the user using the project having a personal name to the Internet for such research to substantially non-work hours.

55. (original) The method according to claim 1 having an archiving feature wherein links in the research summary that haven't been activated for a predetermined period of time are deleted to an archiving file such as a dedicated archive or a waste basket which permits the user to restore the link at a later time.

56. (currently amended) A computer readable medium encoded with a method for performing research, the method including the steps of accessing URLs on an internet for downloading information therefrom and automatically associating URLs visited with a navigation history, the method further capable of operating on a computer, wherein the method, when researching the internet, the Internet, and upon the input of a project name, includes the step of associating ~~associates~~ contiguous online time with the pre-selected project name, wherein the URLs of web sites which the user downloads for viewing will be recorded in a record on the computer in association with the project name.

57. (currently amended) The medium of claim 56, wherein the method further includes the step of providing ~~provides~~ the user with means to temporarily save URLs to sites which are potentially

irrelevant to ~~a current~~ the project name, for access after completion of ~~the current~~ research under the ~~current~~ project name.

58. (currently amended) The medium of claim 57, wherein the method includes the step of selectively temporarily storing information in a manner that enables a ~~provides temporary storage means enabling the~~ user to save any temporarily saved URLs in association with a special project name such as PERSONAL to which there is limited or no access by others.

59. (currently amended) A browsing method adapted to manage Internet research in a research session by use of an internet browser, wherein the navigation on an internet ~~the Internet~~ by a user or users comprises ~~the~~ automatic association of URLs that are accessed with a pre-defined project name and wherein information in respect to selected of said accessed URLs is able to be stored in a computer storage medium, said information comprising the URL address and a reference to a project name.

60 (previously presented) The browsing method of claim 59, wherein the information stored further comprises information related to the time of the research.

61 (previously presented) The browsing method of claim 59, wherein the information stored further comprises an identification of an individual user associated with the research.

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification in the paragraphs indicated in brackets which correspond to the paragraphs of the published patent application:

[0004] Intelliseek, Inc. of Cincinnati, Ohio, offers a method, known as "BULLSEYE" which uses automated agents to filter and find information which a user deems relevant to their search (see product information, available at <http://www.intelliseek.com>). Further, search results may optionally be saved under a particular file name for later retrieval. Still further, a "tracking" feature permits a user to program an agent tracker to automatically retrieve information of interest to the user when the user is logged on to the Internet. However, the search itself is not attributed to any particular project name or file during the research. No features are provided to enable the user to re-access the saved research based on a key word search of such saved projects.

[0005] Another firm, WebKeys Incorporated of California, provides a method, known as "PROWLER" (information available at <http://www.webkeys.com/aboutwk.htm>) that requires that individual users log on to the Internet using an individual user name and password. Access to certain categories of websites (i.e., "All age", "Under 14", "Teenagers", "Adult content", and "Explicit violence/sexual content") is granted or denied based on privileges that are determined by a system administrator. Further, a navigation history, associated with the user, is saved for administrative censoring purposes.

[0075] The URL has two basic components, the protocol to be used and the object path name. For example, the URL "~~http://~~uspatentinfo.com" specifies a HTTP and a pathname of the server hosting <http://uspatentinfo.com>. The server name is associated with a unique numeric value (TCP/IP address). In the example depicted in FIG. 13, the "PATENT.INFO" home page includes links 180 which are typically underlined or highlighted to indicate the presence of a URL address link. Using a prior art browser, if a user wishes to go to the linked page, the user places cursor pointer 156 with a mouse 27 or other pointing device over the link 180 and activates the pointing

device to access the linked page or document.

[0134] In another embodiment, the method 60 of the invention may be used in a server-based computing architecture that allows the method to run on a remote server 54 operated by a system administrator. This is commonly known as running the application as an ASP (application service provider). The model of the project-based, group browser functioning as an ASP is particularly timely, as the market place for ASPs is growing very quickly. It also provides scope for other client/server configurations as the general client market moves increasingly towards support of thin client devices such as Palms, Pocket PC's, WAP or HML enabled phones and other digital portable devices. These devices run on remote, server-based applications, pulling the application processing back to the server from the PC or laptop, in order to avoid the computing power and memory requirements that are built in to most PCs, while minimizing the amount of dedicated bandwidth required (for further info, see www.allaboutasp.com and www.esoftglobal.com). The system administrator provides the required software, hardware and updates; an Internet connection to the user's PC or other digital device; management of access rights for group members; and management of the intellectual property rights associated with the content that is generated. In a first advantage, this embodiment allows users to avoid the up-front and continuing costs and technology complexities that might be associated with a client-side application, with the sacrifice of some flexibility because the user may have limited memory, and graphics display and keyboard resources in current thin client device technology.